news release

concordia university

☐ 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8 879-2867
☐ 7141 Sherbrooke Street West Montreal, Quebec H4B 1R6 481-0320

Aug 23/74

CONCORDIA ESTABLISHED!

On August 14th, 1974, orders-in-council enabling CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY to come into existence were passed by Cabinet.

On August 16, the two founding institutions signed the necessary documents merging downtown Sir George Williams University and west end Loyola of Montreal. The new institution begins its existence as an English language university with a day and evening enrolment of over 20,000 undergraduate and graduate degree students.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY is the product of the Sir George Williams charter, revised and amended to include the educational resources of Loyola. Originally, a YMCA adult education operation begun more than a century ago, Sir George Williams graduated its first university level students in the nineteen-thirties. In 1948, it received a university charter and has been the pioneer of part-time university education in Canada. In 1966, the opening of the Henry F. Hall Building on de Maisonneuve permitted a tremendous increase in Sir George's educational service to the Community.

Loyola of Montreal, located for the past sixty years in the residential west end of Montreal, looks back on more than a century of educational service under the direction of the English-speaking Jesuit Fathers. Begun as a bilingual classical college, it became an English language men's college at the turn of the century. In the nineteen-thirties, Loyola joined the mainstream

. . . 2

of English style university education, emerging in recent years as a four faculty undergraduate college.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY will operate on the two campuses of the founding institution.

CONCORDIA faculties are:

Concordia Faculty of Commerce & Business Administration
Concordia Faculty of Engineering
Loyola Faculty of Arts and Science
Sir George Williams Faculty of Arts
Sir George Williams Faculty of Science

The sixth faculty - Concordia Faculty of Fine Arts - is in the process of being established. The first two listed faculties will provide courses on both campuses in the academic year 1974-75.

Graduate studies will continue to be located on the Sir George Williams campus.

Classes will continue to be given in the day and evening on both campuses. A CONCORDIA Board of Governors, Senate and Administration are now in operation.

- 3 0 -

August 20, 1974

August 20, 1974

REMARKS OF

C.A. DUFF, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

C O N C O R D I A U N I V E R S I T Y

I am delighted to finally be able to announce that "CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY", combining the personnel and resources of Sir George Williams University and Loyola of Montreal, has come into existence. I realize, of course, that this may come as a small surprise to many from each campus who have been under the distinct impression that CONCORDIA has, in fact, existed for the past year.

At the outset , I wish to extend my sincere thanks and congratulations to members of faculty and administration and to students who have borne so much of the burden of the past trying year. Uncertainties about the future are frustrating enough when we know what we are -- they are doubly frustrating when we're not quite sure.

The status of CONCORDIA has been clarified - we can now settle into the task of making the new university flourish.

. . . 2

May I offer my thanks as well to the members of the Joint Negotiating Committee - some of whom are here today - for their excellent accomplishment. They have brought together two distinct and different educational institutions. And, they have done it in a way that offers every hope that CONCORDIA will surpass the outstanding achievements of its founding parts. Through great effort, willingness to compromise in the clear interest of the common objective, and vision that went beyond partisan interest, they have managed a union as great as has ever taken place in North American higher education. They have worked in a spirit of fine cooperative effort that will serve as an example through the deliberations of the years ahead.

There is much still to do. Such a strong beginning assures me that the prospects of the new university are extremely good.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY is based on the charter of Sir George Williams University, its by-laws appropriately revised and amended to incorporate the resources and educational thrust of Loyola. And, though I announce the formal creation of CONCORDIA today - let me assure you that the personnel of Sir George and Loyola do not meet as strangers.

We have for the past year operated jointly wherever possible, as though the new university existed. We have established a single Board of Governors; a single Senate; senior appointments to the new university have been made; appropriate plans and programs set in motion in those areas possible.

Fears that have been expressed by many that CONCORDIA could not or would not work have been shown unfounded. We are still getting to know one another; still adjusting to difference in method and outlook; differences even in educational aims and style. But... we are already hard at work!

CONCORDIA, like the institutions out of which it has been moulded, owes its principal responsibility to the community in which it is set and of which it is a part. This is a matter on which I might dwell at length for it has many ramifications; many levels of meaning. However, I will content myself to repeat what the Joint Negotiating Committee announced following the first meeting it held two and a half years ago:

"The representatives of Sir George Williams and Loyola agreed that the purpose of a common destiny was the better service of the Community interest through the rational use of shared resources. The new university must be able to adapt and grow in response to the needs of the Community."

This was our goal at the outset - This was our focal point throughout negotiations - This is our firm commitment today and tomorrow: to education, to Quebec, to Canada, as we launch out into the deep.

CONCORDIA SALUS!

- 30 -